

Evening Ledger

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PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1915.

Make yourself hard to satisfy, and satisfying other people will be easy.

Sacrifice in Lincoln's Memory

NO BETTER day could have been chosen for calling upon the people to make a sacrifice for the benefit of the poor than this anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln knew poverty. He was born in a home as poor and squalid as the poorest in this city. There is even a tradition, not substantiated, that the house where he first saw the light was an open shed with a single room. At best it was a poor cabin. But in it a man was born, with a vision clear enough to see through the circumstantial habiliments of society to the very core of things. He had traversed the hard road from the Kentucky cabin to the White House and he had talked with all whom he had overtaken on the way, and found that they were men of like frailties and like ambitions with himself. No one could fool him, for he knew, so when the great crisis came, he swept aside all superficialities and pierced to the heart of the problem. Wealth, ancestry, political prestige meant nothing to him when he sought a man to assist him. And the man who could make good was always welcomed, whether he was a tanner or a landed proprietor.

Beside the great task of saving the Union he was confronted by the still greater task of remembering that those who were helping him were also men and not mere pawns. When a soldier was sentenced the death in the interest of discipline, he saw, not the military regulations, but a weak boy, overcome by the terrors of war, and a heartbroken mother, back home, with long years of grief before her. He was weak? No, he was strong, when, with the benign mercy of an all-wise judge, he let the boy go.

Who shall sit in judgment today on the hungering thousands here? Who shall say "If they had been prudent, as I have been, they would have no need of help now?"

Certainly no man, and no woman, who has any appreciation of the spirit of Lincoln will be so hard and inhuman.

The unemployed are in need. Their innocent children are dependent on your bounty for their food and clothing, and, in some cases, even for a roof over their heads.

Therefore, give, and give generously, in the name of your common humanity!

Give, in the name of Abraham Lincoln, who, in his childhood, was as needy as any of the starving children now crying for food.

And if you cannot give for either of these reasons, give for the sake of your own little child, that he or she may retain the beautiful faith in your goodness, which on many an occasion before has prevented you from being false to what you know to be right.

Who knows what Lincoln your gift may preserve to give himself to his country in a great crisis of the coming years?

The Right Way to Do It

THE Liberty Bell was sent across the continent yesterday in the right way, when its reverberations, in response to a blow struck by Chief Ball, of the Bureau of City Property, were transmitted by telephone to the Mayor of San Francisco. A record of the sounds was taken on a gramophone, and the same will be put in the machines on exhibition at the Panama-Pacific Fair, and wherever else they can be used. Thus, in a literal sense, the tones of the old bell will be heard throughout the world, as its spiritual message of liberty thrilled the two hemispheres in 1776.

Indeed, the cost of a continuous telephone connection between the bell and the Panama Fair would not be much more than the cost of a junketing committee to escort it there and back. And the wonder of hearing it over a distance of 3000 miles would be greater than the pleasure of seeing the bell itself to those who cannot make the journey here.

A Sheep Dog With Wings

NEWS comes from Chicago that a sheep raiser whose ranges are in the foothills of the Cray Mountains in Montana, is on his way to New York to buy an air ship to disperse dogs in rounding up his flocks. The sheep raiser may be like the Montana mountaineer, but he has a good idea. A dirigible balloon has a much wider range of operations than the best Scotch collie ever bred, and it makes little more noise. The wolf has to search for the missing sheep by going over the range, but a man in a dirigible balloon has only to lean back in his seat and see the landscape with his binoculars to discover all the sheep on several square miles of territory. The rest is easy.

If the experiment proves successful, the wilderness of the future will get up at public dinner and tell not how when heretofore boys only used to stir the crowd from the seats at public dinners, but of the difficulties they had with the luxury of their automobiles and what the blundering man was changing the scene to.

an adjoining lot and how narrowly they escaped ending their career on such an occasion. The world certainly "do move," and it has come about that only he jets at scientific prophesies who has never seen what once seemed follies become actual conveniences.

A Smashing Blow to Transit Obstructionists

DIRECTOR TAYLOR yesterday smashed the program of the opposition to quick transit. The obstructionists were clinging desperately to a technical construction. They appeared to be afraid that transit would put a 20-inch pipe into the City Treasury and drain it.

It has been repeatedly announced, of course, that the new system cannot be built in one year. There will be several years of construction work. Director Taylor never expected to spend \$30,000,000 between July and December, 1915. To accept, therefore, the amount that will be needed this year, upon promise of the additional funds as required, following the passage of the constitutional amendment, was to knock the sole vestige of reasonableness out of the argument of the opposition, and this without impairing in the slightest the transit program or yielding anything vital.

It is significant that one and all of the previous holdbacks rushed to cover and were explicit in disavowing any intention to delay the beginning of work. There was no longer any arrogant disregard of public interests. On the contrary, there was obvious crowding to get on the band wagon. Mr. Seger promised a favorable report on the ordinances at the next meeting of Council. A poll of that body has shown a great majority in favor of the plans. It is certain, therefore, that an April election will be ordered, unless perchance some new obstacle, now unforeseen, is presented.

The hearing resolved itself into a field day for the champions of rapid transit. This telling point followed that. There was one victory after another. It was a triumph for public opinion and open discussion. The result is that practically all of its former foes are now on record as favoring an April election and the beginning of work this summer. They cannot back down without stultification, and there is little reason to suppose that, having at last seen the light, they will again shut their eyes.

The fight is not yet won, and the public must remain under arms, but the auguries all point to Philadelphia getting what it wants.

Liquor Advertisements in Alabama

IT MAY not be constitutional for a Legislature to forbid the newspapers in a State to print liquor advertisements, as has been done in Alabama, but it is good policy for the newspapers to refuse to assist in enlarging the market for strong drink. Nearly all of the reputable magazines long ago ceased printing such advertisements and the better class of daily newspapers do not admit the announcements of brewers or distillers to their columns.

Liquor and patent medicines are grouped together in a forbidden class, and they are nearer kin than many innocent and unsuspecting persons used to imagine. The Alabama newspapers, therefore, which are threatening to test the constitutionality of the law, might better observe it and reserve their energies to fight for things worth while.

When the Railroads Wanted Lower Rates

WHILE the Panama Canal was expected to change the trade routes of the world its effect upon American trade routes has already been much greater than any one anticipated. Freight can be shipped from Pacific to Atlantic coast ports by the canal so much cheaper than by rail that the all-rail routes have lost much business. It was to put the railroads in a condition to meet this new competition that the Interstate Commerce Commission has permitted a reduction in transcontinental rates, and now the charge for a long haul may be less than for a short haul.

This is in accordance with the long-established policy of providing for rail competition with water routes and is in the interest of the shipping public. The railroads themselves asked for a reduction in rates and they regarded this reduction as equally important with the 5 per cent. increase which they recently received permission to make. As business adjusts itself to the new Panama route, it is likely that still further change in railroad rates will have to be made.

Mr. Wilson Appraised

The first thing the President does when he approaches a new subject is to make up his mind. Information is looked upon as a mere impediment.—Henry Cabot Lodge, in the Senate yesterday.

THIS is not the first time that this estimate of the President has been made, but it is the first time that it has been uttered where it could be put on the official record.

As the judgment of a fair-minded political opponent comes about as close to the judgment of posterity as we can get, it is interesting to find that the contemporary estimate of the wise men of his own party is shared by one qualified as Senator Lodge is for forecasting the verdict of the future.

Although it is difficult to teach an old dog new tricks, it is still possible for Mr. Wilson to confound his appraisers and prove that his mind is not closed to informing argument on the folly of some of his plans. Will he do it?

All together now! Make it high tide for generosity in Philadelphia!

One advantage of being an ally is that England furnishes the money.

If there are not ships enough to carry our wheat abroad why not keep it at home?

It is almost too bad that smallpox does not break out in Congress. It has forced the adjournment of the Arizona Legislature.

Just about the time the Russians get thoroughly whipped it is discovered that it's nothing but an outpost of 100,000 or so men.

We may not own the ships, but there is a great rush to get under the American flag just the same.

The general impression is that the Administration ought to know something about the merchant marine—it's been at sea long enough.

NOBODY IN CONGRESS LIKE J. ADAM BEDE.

But He Makes Occasional Visits—A Suggestion That Senators and Representatives Be Taught the English Language—Chautauqua Prospects Look Good.

By J. C. HEMPHILL

J ADAM BEDE was in town last week. He did not state his business, but he was here doubtless for some good purpose. Not many years ago he was a member of Congress from "the zenith city of the unsalted sea," and he was quite an interesting figure in the public life of his times. He always "said something" and was occasionally on the right side of important questions. He had a sense of humor without which, in the opinion of Mr. Taft, life is hardly worth the living; but the more dense and sober-sided constituents of Mr. Bede could not see the sound philosophy underlying his sometimes trifling treatment of public questions, and they concluded to keep him at home, preferring to endure their own indignation rather than to share it with the great body-politic.

They have never had anybody like him here since his retirement, and they never will until they send him back in no sense changed for the worse by the years he has spent grubbing for a living on the Chautauqua platform at so much per, after the manner of another eminent statesman who need not be more exactly identified.

One of the things that Adam said that commanded applause was the very wholesome reflection he made upon the primary system of making nominations for public office, and the cheapening effect this plan has had upon the quality of those who have been elevated to high places in the Government of the country. It has been said very truly that the new plan works well for two classes of those who would occupy public office—the ignorant and the corrupt. Taking them by and large, man for man, and the men who have won in the primaries will not compare with the men who were named by the old convention system. They will not admit it, but it is not necessary that they should—"a tree is judged by its fruit"; there they are in House and Senate; look at them! At any rate, Adam Bede is here no longer and "the places that knew him once," etc.

They Ought to Not Have Did It

After Secretary Josephus Daniels gets through educating the sailors and teaching them how to eat in the officers' mess, it might be a good thing for him to form a class among the Senators and Representatives to teach them how to use their native language. The story is told about a distinguished man who was nominated by one of the political parties for the office of Vice President. He had been carefully trained as to what he should say and how he should say it in his speech of acceptance, and as long as he stuck to his prepared address his backers were much delighted with their work until, laying aside his manuscript for a brilliant thought, he shocked all the purists present by saying in a burst of native eloquence: "My friends, we musn't do as them Romans done."

Everybody knew exactly what he meant, but it was inslated that it was not good form.

On another occasion, as the story goes, the same outspoken and perfectly honest man, when asked if he had seen Mr. Blank, said: "No, I haven't saw him and I haven't saw anybody who has saw him."

Again, the form was not good, but the meaning was clear.

Many of the best people in Mr. Daniels' State say in ordinary conversation, "I done it," "he done it," or "they done it," or "you done noble," and there is no mistaking their meaning; but the form is not good whatever the sense. Neither is the style of quite a number of the Senators now at the Capitol when they say "On tomorrow I shall address the Senate on such and such a question," "As I gave notice on yesterday I wish to say," and so on. Of course, their meaning is plain but their style is bad, and Secretary Josephus might very well devote some of his spare time between his classes aboard ship to the sailors who are trying to steer the ship of State.

Looks Plagiaristic

Speaking of Josephus, his educational activities are not confined to the schools for the sailors. Following the example of his main guide, the Secretary of State, he makes many addresses on religious and moral subjects. Last Sunday, for example, he attended services at the Church of the Covenant, of which Dr. Charles Wood, a former Philadelphian, is pastor.

In a particularly able discourse, the minister spoke of character as the thing most worth striving after, rather than a career, and the Secretary was evidently so much impressed with the sermon that in the afternoon, in an address in the Westminster Presbyterian Church at Alexandria, he admonished his audience that, after all, character rather than a career is most worth striving after.

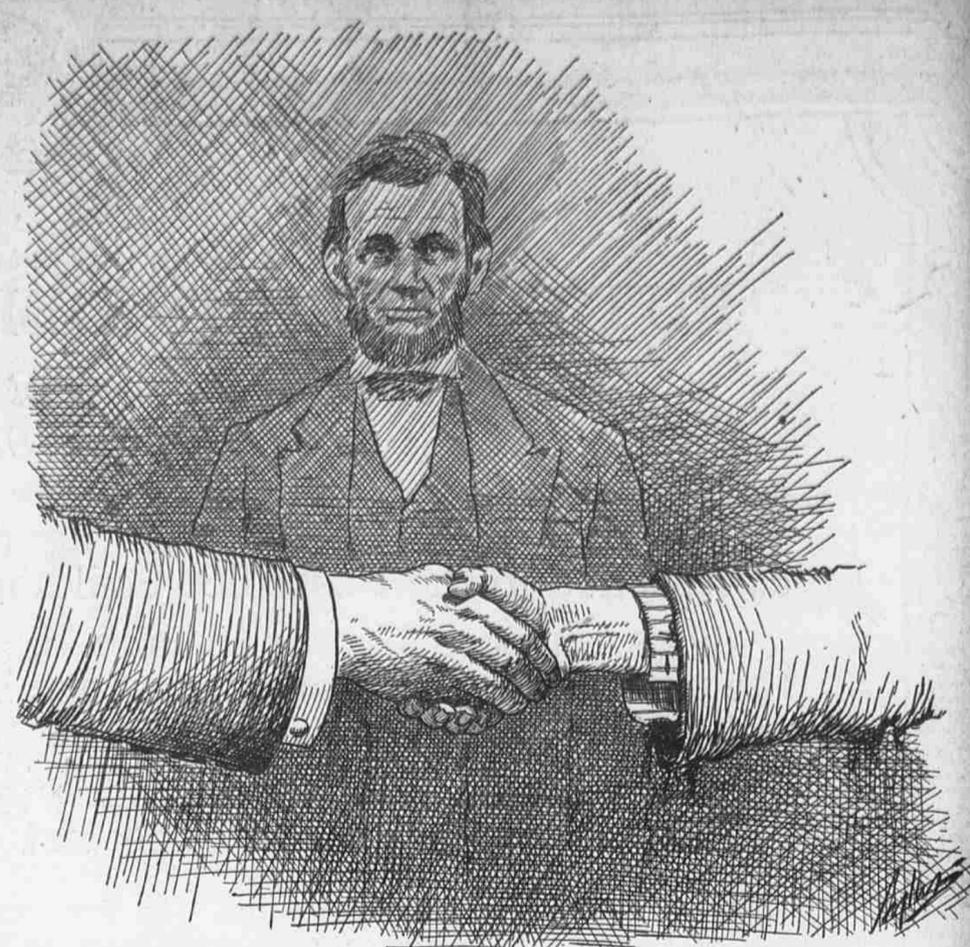
The idea was not original with the Secretary, it was probably not original with the minister. There are a great many self-evident propositions and the abstruse mind is the best sort of mind when it has to be used in expounding noble thoughts.

There will be abundant opportunity next spring and summer, if there should be an extra session of Congress, from which there appears to be no escape, for a resumption of activities on the Chautauqua circuits. The Secretary of the Navy has not yet ventured upon this sea of opportunity; but his class leader, the Secretary of State, is prepared to fill almost any engagement that is offered, and he needs the money. It is not known what he will talk about, but he might very well take up the President's assurance that the existing business depression is purely psychological.

How Bryan Could Help the Country

That would be going rather too far, perhaps, but there are many signs of returning prosperity. Mr. McAdoo's offer of \$50,000,000 last year to take care of the crop movement was not needed really, as there was practically no demand for it and the crops never moved with so little delay. The offer of the Government to relieve the desperate situation caused by the floods in the Dayton, Ohio, district last year only encouraged the bankers and people of that region to depend upon their own resources, which proved to be ample. The gold pool, organized recently to protect our credit in foreign lands, has been dissolved. It was not required except to establish a state of mind. The cotton fund of \$10,000,000 was not needed, and the plan has been abandoned. Applications for the

SELF-SACRIFICE DAY



LINCOLN'S ADDRESS AT GETTYSBURG

Recollections of Some of His Auditors—How the Immortal Four-minute Speech Was Received—Lincoln a Master of English Prose.

ALL AMERICAN history was concentrated in that event—the dedication of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, one day in mid-November, 1863. Gathered there were the fourscore and seven years that had gone before, the hearts and hopes of the future years of our republic, the military significance of one of the most stubborn and bloody battles of the century, the sadder meaning of it to the women and children of North and South, the sacrifice of the soldiers who fought there, the memory of the Revolution and the founders of the nation, patriotism and democracy; and the immense personality of Abraham Lincoln—the "grandest figure on all the crowded canvases of the nineteenth century," he who "bound the nation and unbound the slave."

On that occasion the world gained the beautiful and immortal address in which democracy finds the truest expression that literature affords. The circumstances relating to the composition of that famous speech are veiled in some uncertainty. A writer in the Continent gives the following version:

How the Speech Was Written

"Soon after retiring to his room Mr. Lincoln called for his host" (Judge David R. Wills, at whose house at Gettysburg the President stayed the night of his arrival). "Judge Wills says: 'I found him with a paper, prepared to write, and he said he had just seated himself to put upon paper a few thoughts for tomorrow's exercises,' and he wished to know what would be expected of him. About 11 o'clock he called for Mr. Wills again, and said he wanted to talk with Mr. Seward. On this visit the President carried with him the same paper on which he had been writing, returned with it still in his hand, and before delivering his address next day took this paper from his coat pocket and referred to it while speaking."

"J. A. Rebert, who was detailed as orderly to the President, confirms this statement of Judge Wills. He was sent to Mr. Lincoln's room about 9 o'clock on the morning of the 19th, and found him engaged in writing. Several sheets were finished, but the President asked Mr. Rebert to wait a moment. He concluded his writing, folded the paper and placed it in his inside coat pocket. Mr. Rebert says: 'After arriving at the National Cemetery, and Edward Everett having finished his oration, President Lincoln stepped to the front of the platform, adjusted his glasses, took from his inner coat pocket apparently the same notes, held them in his hand a moment, then elevated both hands, stretching them over the vast assemblage in the manner of a minister administering a blessing and commenced delivering his great speech.'"

The impression made on his auditors by that beautiful and remarkable utterance has been variously reported. Some interesting letters from persons who heard Lincoln at Gettysburg are published in the Continent. Mary I. Creigh, of Omaha, Neb., writes as follows:

Why There Was Little Applause

"I remember well the day in November when Lincoln spoke. The crowds, the solemn hush, the numbers of men on crutches or without arms—the somberness of the dress with so many women in mourning—but most of all with the man himself—his great height, his lean, rugged face, his sympathetic voice, his sorrow over the great number of unknown graves—all impressed me. But what seems most pitiful to me was that there was no applause when he finished, and he thought he had made a failure—and thus additional weight was added to the burden so heavy already. He was the least vain man I ever saw."

"The people were all so moved by his words and all the memories called up by them, and the spot on which they stood, no one could start applauding—so there was almost a silent crowd until the bands began a martial air. Even the papers failed to praise the speech for several days—but then the whole nation awakened to the fact that a wonderful speech had been made, one that would live always."

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and its terse purity of style the address at Gettysburg is worthy of its fame. Here it is a Charter of Democracy. "Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here."

A Maker of Literature

Not always, in his writing or speaking, did Lincoln reach so lofty a plane, but nevertheless he maintained a high average in the quality of his expression and frequently reached noble heights of thought and style so that his rank as "one of the greatest masters of English prose" is unquestioned. One of the most celebrated of Lincoln's writings, the concluding portion of the first inaugural, contains much of beauty and poetry. Of the second inaugural address the London Spectator said: "We cannot read it without a renewed conviction that it is the noblest political document known to history. . . . Surely none was ever written under a stronger sense of the reality of God's government. And certainly none written in a period of passionate conflict ever so completely excluded the partiality of victorious factions and breathed so pure a strain of misappreciated justice and mercy."

Lincoln concluded the address with the splendid sentence:

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, let us strive as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him whose shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and for his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with the nations."

Lincoln's purity and richness of style will not be accounted for entirely by his reading of old ballads, the poetry of Byron, Shakespeare, Aesop, Pilgrim's Progress, and the Bible. Style is thought, and indeed is the man. Great literature is produced only by great personalities. It is autobiographical in the narrow sense, but in the sense that it springs from feelings deep enough to participate deeply in the destinies of the universe. "Lincoln," says Ingersoll, "was a many-sided man, acquainted with smiles and tears, complex brain, single in heart, direct as light, his words, candid as mirrors, gave the perfect image of his thought."

LOVE OF GOD

So to the calmly gathered thought "The instrument of life is taught." "The mystery slowly understood." "That love of God is love of good." "That to be saved is only this—Salvation from our selfishness." —John Greenleaf Whittier

For its elevation and nobility of thought